Statement

International human rights law provides standards covering a range of issues from health, education, housing and labour standards to political participation, fundamental freedoms and personal security, administration of justice and non-discrimination. These issues are fundamentally linked to development. As such, we highlight the critical link between development and human rights, including the rights of the most vulnerable groups. We also underline that human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development and have a vital role to play in environmental and natural resource governance. We encourage the international community to recognize this link and recognize that development goals, in order to be sustainable, have to be grounded in human rights, justice and the rule of law.

By human rights we mean the full range of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. In terms of the international environment in which development goals are framed and their implementation supported, "the right to development, through the systematic application of the core principles of equality, non-discrimination, participation, transparency and accountability at both the national and international levels, establishes a specific framework within which the duty to provide international cooperation and assistance has to be implemented". Special attention must be paid to tackling broader governance issues such as corruption and enhancing the right to information and adequate remedies in this regard.

In articulating a Post-2015 development agenda, the need to promote the use of human rights indicators is crucial to measuring the success or not of development goals.

The MDGs have made some useful contributions to development. Yet, they did not make the link with human rights, which had important consequences.

- The goal of universal primary education did not explicitly refer to the human rights requirement that primary education be free and without discrimination, risking the exclusion of the poor, girls, migrants, indigenous persons, and persons with disabilities, among others.
- The goal of gender equality did not ensure the elimination of discrimination against women and equality between women and men, which should be addressed as a global priority in the future agenda, as should respect for the right to liberty and security of the person, and freedom from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.
- Some human rights that are fundamentally linked to development and poverty eradication were omitted or under-prioritized, such as freedom of expression and of association, including labour rights and decent work, and the right to water and sanitation — so important for the right to life and to meet health-related goals.
- Insufficient attention to the human rights principle of accountability and access to justice has undermined incentives to reach goals and foreclosed any remedy for people whose rights were by-passed or abused in the development process.

Kawish Resource Center advocated to the federal and provincial governments for the inclusion of key issues identified by civil society organizations: peace and security, governance, equitable economic growth, population growth, engaging Pakistan's expanding youth population in positive activities, and gender equity at all levels.